

PRESS RELEASE
2006-2007 San Luis Obispo County Grand Jury Report

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Contact: Joanna Hamburg, Foreperson
Email: jhamburg@co.slo.ca.us
Phone: 805-781-5188

Affordable Housing in San Luis Obispo County
Wishful Thinking or One Step at a Time?

Attached is a report from the 2006-2007 San Luis Obispo County Grand Jury.

Viewed by some as the issue that never goes away, this Grand Jury has reviewed several current efforts to increase the availability of affordable housing in San Luis Obispo County, where, in February, 2006, the median sales price of single-family homes exceeded \$600,000. Less than 10% of the County's households can afford to buy housing at this price.

The Grand Jury looked closely at factors that influence closure or conversion of mobilehome parks, the subject of a moratorium and future ordinance by the County Board of Supervisors. Such parks have traditionally been viewed as low income or senior citizen housing, but increasingly, the need for workforce housing is framing the debate on future projects.

The Employee Housing project recently opened by Cal Poly State University is an example that other large employers in the County may seek to follow. Meanwhile, local inclusionary housing policies and other funding sources, both public and private, are being used by several non-profit organizations and others to expand the stock of affordable housing in this County, but at a pace that falls well-short of the region's "**fair share**" housing requirement as determined by the State Department of Housing and Community Development.

A full transcript of this report is available at <http://www.slocourts.net/grandjury/>. The website also provides background information about the Grand Jury and describes how to apply for Grand Jury membership, as well as how to submit complaints regarding county issues using the "Grand Jury Complaint Form."

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